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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

15 OCT 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable William P. Rogers
The Secretary of State

1. I am transmitting herewith a copy of NIE 11-14-71, Warsaw Pact Forces for Operations in Eurasia. It is the first paper dealing with this subject to appear in the enlarged format adopted last year for NIE's on Soviet military developments. It has been long in preparation, and is the largest volume in the series. The main reason for its size is that it covers a much wider range of information than the other military papers. We have brought into the area of national intelligence a large number of matters which had never before been covered. In the process, analysts in the various agencies have been obliged to exchange evidence and ideas more fully than ever before. As a consequence, the analysis is more solidly based and we now have agreement on many questions on which views had been divergent for some time.

2. Because of the volume of subject matter covered, this paper is organized somewhat differently than the other military papers. The text of the estimate proper is addressed to general questions of military policy, doctrine, and tactics while detailed material concerning components of the various forces and certain special problems such as readiness, mobilization, and reinforcement is contained in Annexes. The latter are therefore not purely supplementary but cover important issues not handled in the main text.

3. There are no significant split views in the text of the estimate proper. The most important difference of opinion appears in Annex A,

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pages 11-15, and concerns the readiness for combat of Warsaw Pact divisions in the NATO area. On this and on some other matters the exhaustive treatment undertaken in this paper has helped to expose more sharply information gaps which we hope to close in future editions.

4. We believe that this estimate is an important contribution. It is a credit to the people in the Intelligence Community who were involved in it that they have completed a piece of work as substantial as this with so few disagreements.

Richard Helms

Richard Helms

Attachment:

Copy No 29 of [] and /1
(NIE 11-14-71 and Annexes)

Identical memo and Attachment sent to Secretary Laird and Mr. Kissinger
ONE/ [] (5 Oct 71)

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